



OxfordAgainstCutting
ProtectingGirls&Women

Oxford Against Cutting Annual Review

For year ended 31st March 2024
Charity number 1161597

Our Supporters



Executive Summary

Our charity continues to grow every year, in terms of geographical area, the number of people we reach and the subjects we cover. In the last year, we delivered workshops across the Thames Valley, as well as expanding into Birmingham and reached over 5370 participants, an increase of over 1300 from last year. Our wide range of workshops on harmful practices and abuse issues now includes No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) and Domestic Abuse; Intersectionality and Protected Characteristics; Working with Families with Spiritual Beliefs; and Conception, Genetic Conditions and Cousin Marriage.

We were delighted to welcome to our team Vania Martins, our new Domestic Abuse Specialist, who brings considerable expertise from working on the frontline with Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Services, and Alexis Hawthorne, our new Schools Coordinator. Our workshops continue to be high quality and hugely popular, with every session delivered with a facilitator who brings lived experience and community insight.



We are now delivering “frontline education” for community groups, to provide culturally sensitive learning on healthy relationships. Our first series, “New Threads”, was created for Oxfordshire Asian Women’s Voice and delivered in partnership with the group organiser, Sabeena Rana. This innovative series supported discussion and learning using film clips from a popular Urdu drama. In addition, we have reached community groups through webinars and workshops in different languages, for example our Web Cafes on “honour” in Urdu, Punjabi and Bangla.

We have also run workshop series for young people, such as our Body Image and Smart Phones series for sixth-form students at Cheney School. In addition, young people were at the forefront of our TIKTOC Web Cafes series (This is Kids Tackling Online Crime), planning and facilitating webinars to address subjects such as facial fillers and revenge pornography.

Finally, we are increasing our support for frontline domestic abuse services. This year, for example, we created a Resources Bank, a free, downloadable toolkit with a list of web resources to support work on types of domestic abuse and harmful practices. Our materials have been widely recognised for their sensitive messaging, with our True Sharif films, for example, being shared on the NHS Safeguarding Adults National Network.

We hope you will join our workshops and share our resources widely to help end harmful practices and support survivors.

Thank you for your support.

Working with schools

Our charity delivers lessons and workshops for schools and universities in the South East and Midlands, always with a facilitator from an affected community, who brings lived experience to learning. Evaluation of our training consistently demonstrates that participants feel greater confidence in tackling harmful practices following our workshops.

We have reached audiences totalling over 5370 participants in the last year!

Our audiences included in excess of 525 school and teaching staff, 170 primary school students and 3,180 secondary school students.



Working with Schools & Organisations

Schools & Organisations Reached

- Aspire Alternative Provision School
- Berkshire White Ribbon campaign
- Botley School
- Bracknell Forest Council
- Cheney Secondary School
- Clean Slate
- Cowley Road Medical Practice
- Didcot Girls School
- Fitzharry's School
- Headington School
- James Elliman Academy
- John Mason School
- Knowles Primary School
- Lordswood Boys' School
- Lynch Hill Enterprise Academy
- Montem Academy
- NASUWT
- NHSE
- North Oxfordshire Academy
- Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board
- Oxford City Council
- Oxford High School
- Oxford NHS Primary Mental Health Team
- Oxford Spires Academy
- Oxfordshire Social Services (Looked After Children)
- Oxfordshire Youth
- Pegasus Primary School
- Reading Borough Council
- SAFE!
- Specialist public health school nurses
- Sunrise Multicultural Project's girls' group
- Waddesdon Primary School
- Waverley Studio College
- Wokingham Borough Council
- Wycombe High School
- Oxford City Council

This session made me feel more aware of FGM and how and why it happens

Thank you so much! Very moving, informative and expertly delivered.

Conferences & Working Group Presentations



Oxford Brookes University's VAWG conference

FGM, HBA and forced marriage

Diverse Worlds (Oxfordshire Diverse Communities Working Group)

Perpetrators and accountability; barriers to abuse services

Education Safeguarding Advisory Team (ESAT)'s annual conference

"How do we reach everyone in the classroom?" (re age and inclusivity)

Oxford Against Cutting (OAC)

Anti HBA workshop for public; creative writing workshop

OAC in partnership with OSARCC

Web Cafe Barriers to sexual violence services

OAC in partnership with Savera

FGM and healthcare

Oxford Brookes University's Human Rights Festival

Cousin marriage and genetic illnesses

Oxfordshire Asian Women's Voice

New Threads workshops on honour and social norms

Thames Valley Police

HBA training

Web Cafe

SEPT - NOV 23

TIK TOC WEB CAFE SERIES

This is Kids Tackling Online Crime

Certificate awarded to young people for attendance at any session. Great for your CV!

Free, open to anyone over 14 years old - no need to book.

Zoom Details: ID: 873 1353 7004 Passcode: 291560
Time: 12 - 1pm

- 1 Fri 22nd Sept: Language around unhealthy masculinities
- 2 Fri 29th Sept: Revenge Pornography - what does this include and what are the laws?
- 3 Fri 6th Oct: Online advertising of cosmetic body alterations
- 4 Fri 13th Oct: Match making platforms that enable forced marriage and exploitation
- 5 Fri 20th Oct: Using social media to foster good mental health



OXFORD AGAINST CUTTING

TIK TOC WEB CAFE

This is Kids Tackling Online Crime

Certificate awarded to young people for attendance at any session. Great for your CV!

Free, open to anyone over 14 years old - no need to book.

FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER
2023 12PM-1PM

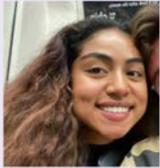
Using social media to foster good mental health.

In conversation with...

Ahd Hassan



Keisy Fong



Emma Woods



Zoom ID: 873 1353 7004
Passcode: 291560

oxfordagainstcutting.org
dot@oxfordagainstcutting.org



OAC WEB CAFES

ਸਨਮਾਨ ਕੀ ਹੈ?

Discussion on 'honour', in Punjabi, with experts in violence against women & girls. Open to all.

Friday 9th Feb, 12-1pm
ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਚਰਚਾ

JOIN ZOOM MEETING
MEETING ID: 876 5466 8358

OAC WEB CAFES

সম্মান কি?

Discussion on 'honour', in Bangla, with experts in violence against women & girls. Open to all.

Friday 2nd Feb, 12-1pm
বাংলায় আলোচনা

JOIN ZOOM MEETING
MEETING ID: 876 5466 8358

OAC WEB CAFES

WHAT IS HONOUR?

Discussions on 'honour' with experts in violence against women & girls. Open to all.

Fridays, 12 - 1pm
26th Jan - discussion in Urdu
2nd Feb - discussion in Bangla
9th Feb - discussion in Punjabi

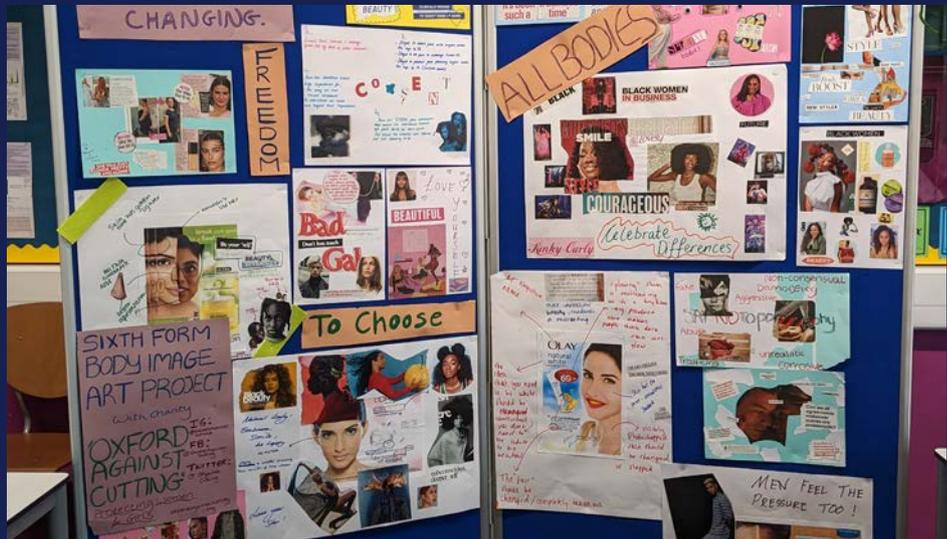
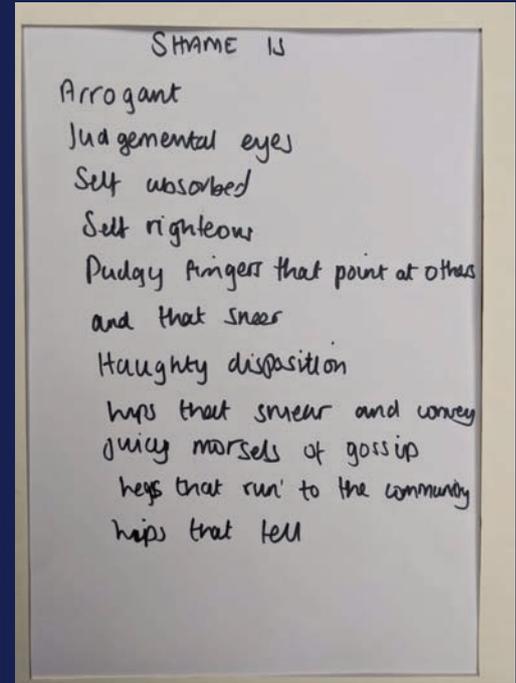
JOIN ZOOM MEETING
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Our regular series of Web Cafes provide a safe, informal online space for communities and professionals to meet, share learning and provide mutual support on sensitive topics. This year we ran TIKTOC (This is Kids Tackling Online Crime) and a series in South Asian languages called "What is Honour?". To mark International Women's Day, we hosted a Web Cafe on Barriers to Sexual Violence Services in partnership with OSARCC.

Learning through the Arts

We inspired creative expression and discussions on “shame” in our Creative Writing Workshop focusing on overcoming feelings of shame in relation to harmful practices. The event began with talks by Rubie Marie, who shared her story of surviving a forced marriage and Mariama, a survivor of FGM. The audience then took part in a creative writing workshop led by professional creative writer, Sunita Thind.

We ran a programme comprising 5 workshops on Body Image and the Media at Cheney School for sixth-form students. The workshops included the creation of artwork to raise awareness of the issues covered, displayed at the school and shared on social media. The workshops covered: The Beauty Industry, Colourism, Pornography and Body Alterations, FGM and Female Cosmetic Genital Surgery; and an art workshop to reinforce learning.



FREE ADMISSION

Creative Writing workshop

Peace House, Oxford

11TH NOV, 1.30 - 4.30PM

Creative writing workshop led by professional creative writer, with talks from inspirational survivors of violence against women and girls. Open to everyone over 16.



MARIAMA SALLAH,
FGM/C SURVIVOR
AND ACTIVIST



RUBIE MARIE,
FORCED MARRIAGE
SURVIVOR AND ACTIVIST

WRITING | INSPIRATION | CONVERSATION

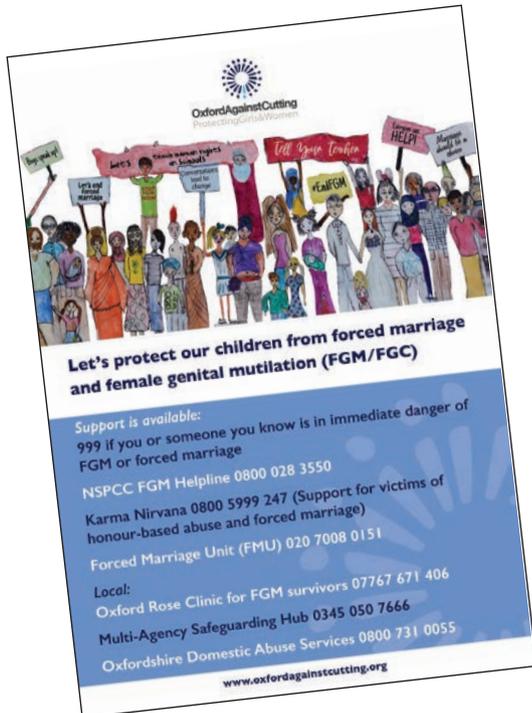
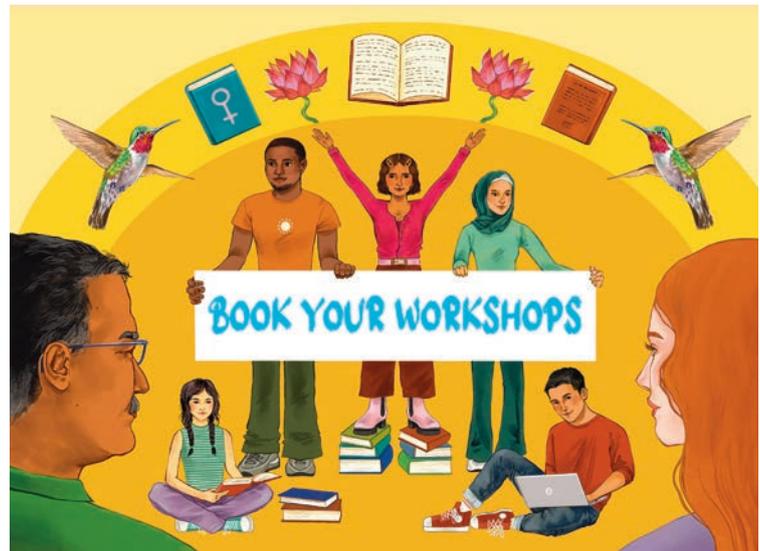
For more information email dot@oxfordagainstcutting.org



Awareness-raising

2030 is the number of schools across the Thames Valley and Birmingham who received our postcard, with details of our lessons, safeguarding workshops and helpline numbers to protect children from harmful practices. Our postcard campaign ran in March, ahead of long school holidays, when children are at higher risk of being taken abroad to be cut or forced into marriage. A young artist was commissioned to create the image for the postcards.

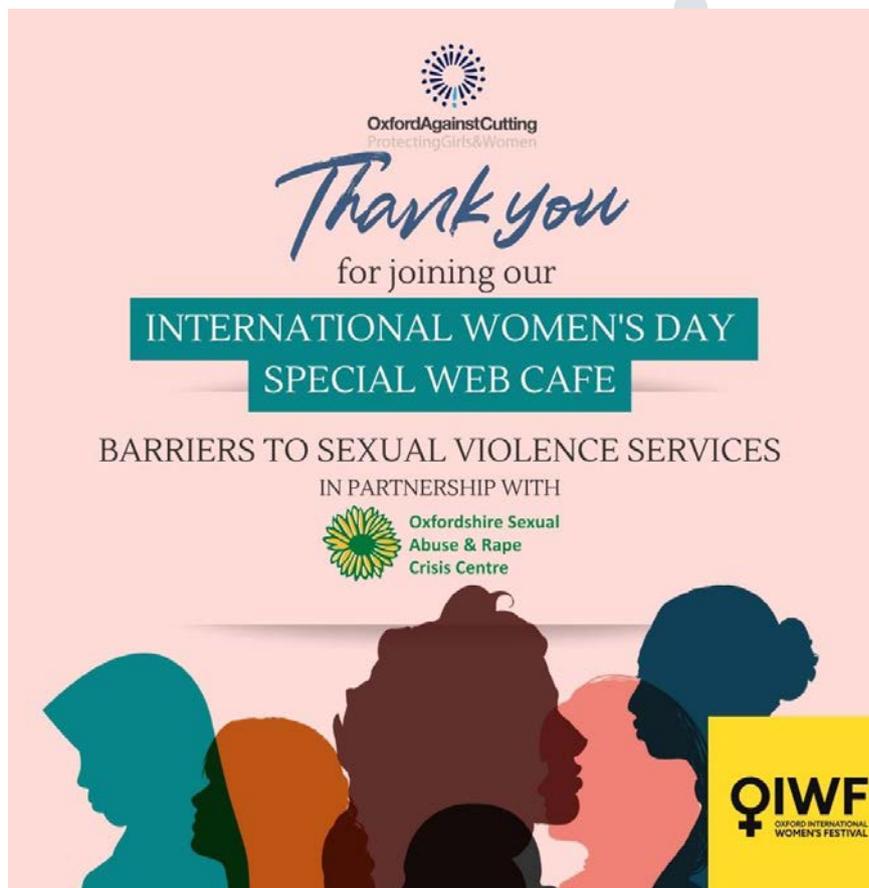
We updated our helpline posters for all areas, with new colours, messaging and services information and shared these on all our platforms. We also ran an online campaign, using social media advertising, to increase the reach of our Arabic True Sharif FGM films into Arabic-speaking communities, to over 12,000 people.

Supporting an intersectional approach to tackling abuse

We continue to lead the multi-agency group, Diverse Communities Working Group (Oxon), and run focus group discussions to help inform service delivery for women from minoritised communities suffering abuse. In the last year, we have hosted discussions on 'Perpetrator and Accountability' and 'Barriers to Abuse Services for Bangladeshi Women'. We also hosted a multi-agency brainstorm session on "honour codes" and "flipping honour codes" to prevent harm.

We created a Resources Bank, a free, downloadable toolkit with an evolving list of web resources to support work on types of domestic abuse and harmful practices. The resources can be sorted and selected according to protected characteristics, language and topic. The bank is incredibly useful for domestic abuse services and several organisations have given spontaneous feedback about its significant value.



Frontline education programme

New Threads, our new workshop series for Oxfordshire Asian Women's Voice, focused on the complicated pressures and intertwining threads of family and community relationships, for a group of 10-20 women who love to sew! The programme included measurement of some of the social norms around marriage, at the beginning and end of the series, plus learning and discussion on healthy relationships and issues around "honour", drawing on clips from a popular Urdu language drama for learning.



International
WOMEN'S
Day
نئی ڈوریا

Workshop on Conception
اردو میں بحث

A discussion in Urdu on the pressures that women can face to conceive children soon after marriage.

Wednesday, 6th March
12.30 - 2.30pm
Rose Hill Community Centre
Contact Sabeena for more info: **07865 958040**

Oxfordshire
Asian Women's
Voice

OxfordAgainstCutting
Protecting Girls & Women

New Threads
نئی ڈوریا

Workshops on healthy relationships

with yoga and food

Wednesdays, 12.30 - 2.30pm
Rose Hill Community Centre
20 & 27 Sept,
4 & 11 Oct,
1, 8, 22 & 29 Nov
Contact Sabeena for more info: **07865 958040**

Oxfordshire
Asian Women's
Voice

OxfordAgainstCutting
Protecting Girls & Women

Going the extra mile...

In addition to a packed calendar of training, awareness-raising and education events, OAC is a member and contributor to:

- Thames Valley Diverse Communities Partnership
- The Oxford FGM Operational Group (sub group of Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board)
- The Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership (OxDAP)
- The Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Strategy Group & Task & Finish Groups
- Home Office's Anti-FGM Stakeholder Group
- We also contributed to the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel's VAWG Task and Finish Group





Our Team

- **Kate Agha** - CEO
- **Dr Kate Clayton**
- **Hathway**
Director of Research and Evaluation
- **Dot Pritchard**
Operations Manager
- **Vania Martins**
Domestic Abuse Specialist
- **Alexis Hawthorne**
Schools Coordinator
- **Tanya Vyas**
Communications
Coordinator - Social Media
- **Hauwa Suleiman**
Gender Specialist
- **Kaddy Touray**
Anti-FGM Facilitator
- **Fatou Ceesay**
Anti-FGM Facilitator
- **Rubie Marie**
Ambassador and
Anti-HBA Facilitator
- **Mariama Sallah**
Anti-FGM Facilitator
- **Monica Majumdar**
-**Choudhary**
Anti-HBA Facilitator
- **Sobia Afridi**
Anti-HBA Facilitator
- **Emma Woods**
Body Image Facilitator

- **Keisy Lin Fong**
Body Image Facilitator
- **Babs Ceesay**
Anti-FGM Facilitator

Our Trustees

- Caroline Pinder (Chair)
- Liz Parry (Co-Chair)
- Dr Sharon Dixon
- Miranda Dobson
- Richard Coleman
- Naseem Sarbatta-Walia
- Seiza Bashir
- Ahd Hassan
- Dr Leethen Bartholomew

How To Donate

Please support us in helping prevent FGM and forced marriage and support survivors living in the Thames Valley. Every donation we receive makes a significant contribution towards continuing our work. **Our overheads are minimal as we do not have office space.** You can therefore be reassured that your donation will directly contribute to our work to tackle harmful cultural practices.

You can donate to Oxford Against Cutting:

- Online via our website: <https://www.oxfordagainstcutting.org/donate-here/>
- Make a single donation by bank transfer, or set up a regular donation by standing order Account name: **Oxford Against Cutting Account number: 33389952 Sort code: 20-97-48**

For more information visit our website: www.oxfordagainstcutting.org



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